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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/631,099	07/31/2003	Massimo Ponzio	141483.00000	7753

24041 7590 12/12/2006
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EXAMINER

LANGDON, EVAN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/631,099

Applicant(s)

PONZIO ET AL.

Examiner

Evan H. Langdon

Art Unit

3654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 November 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-4 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09 November 2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 2nd Paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 8 recites a method step limitation in an apparatus claim, "said termination step" in line 2. Suggested correction: said termination.

Claim 9 recites a method step limitation in an apparatus claim, "said hooking step" in line 3. Suggested correction: in hooking said wire.

Claim 11 recites a method step limitation in an apparatus claim, "said winding and said termination steps" in line 4.

Claims 10 and 11 recite the limitation "a second shield" in lines 1 and 2, respectively. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claim 10 depends from claim 5 which has not provided antecedent basis for a first shield.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

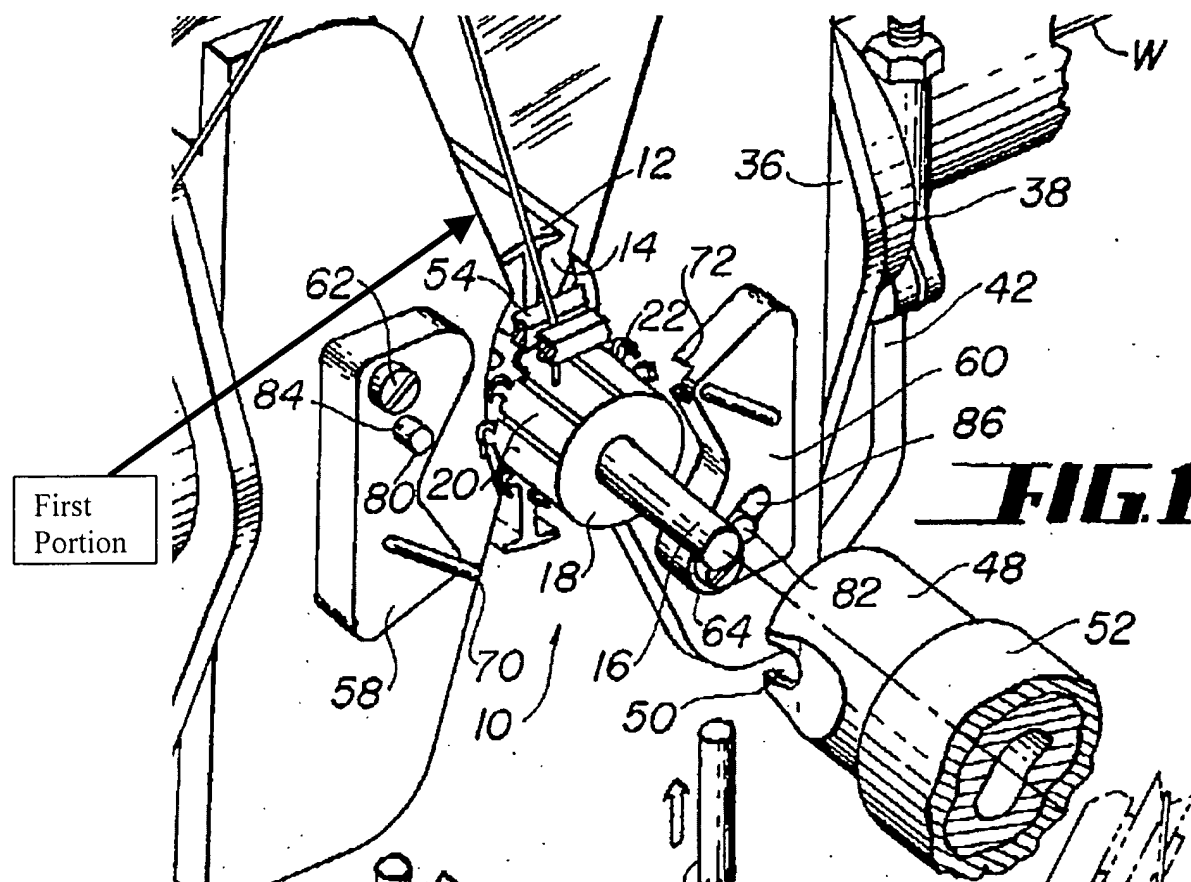
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Doyle (US 3,713,208).

Doyle discloses an apparatus for winding multi-pole stators 10, wherein the stators are formed by a sheet stack ferromagnetic core, having an axis (dashed center line, Fig. 1), a plurality of radially extending poles 12 defining grooves between them, and a terminal board 18 that coats in part the core and has a plurality of hooks 22; comprising at least one flier 34 and at least one shroud 26 that moves radially with respect to the stator overlapping a respective pole extension, wherein a first portion (see below) of the shroud guides a wire during a winding of the wire about the pole and a second portion 58 (Fig. 1, 4) of the shroud directly guides the wire on the hook.



In regards to claims 6, Doyle discloses the shroud, on a face oriented towards the stator, a housing 66 (Fig. 4) is made suitable for receiving a portion of the hook 22, to make a guide for the wire on the hook 22.

In regards to claim 7, Doyle discloses the wire forms a loop (Fig. 6) about the hooks 22 and a movable shield 48 arranged between a disengage (Fig. 1) and an engaged position (Fig. 2) between the hook and the shroud, suitable for keeping the wire at a forced position, for preventing the wire form disengaging from the hook when the flier moves backwards.

In regards to claim 8, Doyle discloses the shield 48, is arranged to cover the hooks 22 during the termination (Fig. 3), has cylindrical shape co-axial to the stator, and is arranged to move axially to the stator.

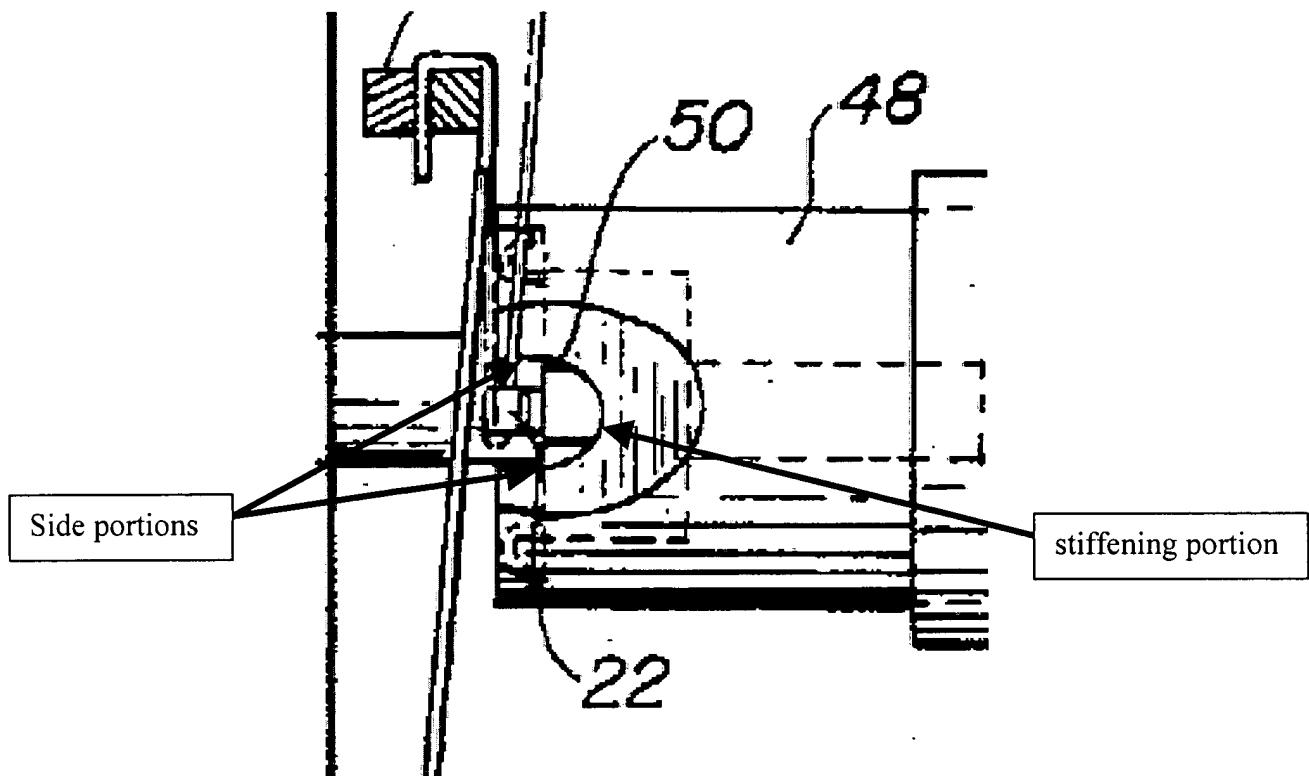
In regards to claim 9, Doyle discloses the shield, 48 which covers the hooks 22 during the termination, has an open shape with at least a rounded edge 50, for allowing the wire to slide and preventing the wire from being damaged when hooking onto the hook

In regards to claim 10, Doyle discloses a cylindrical shield 48 peripherally equipped with at least a locking element 50 that in use is arranged at a hook of the stator during termination.

In regards to claim 11, Doly discloses the shield has a plurality of teeth 50 (Col. 3, lines 13-15) oriented in an axial direction facing the stator for engaging and backing the hook 22, avoiding deformation and break of the hook owing to bending actions or hits which might occur at winding and termination (Col. 3, lines 7-26).

In regards to claim 12 Doyle discloses the locking element 50 comprises a central stiffening portion that in use is positioned to back the hook and two side portions suitable for blocking the hook with respect to the stator and guiding the wire during termination (see below)

In regards to claim 13, Doyle discloses the locking element 50 has, furthermore, a protrusion so that the hook 22 is constrained between the central stiffening portion and the protrusion in order to limit further any possibility of movement. (see below).



Response to Arguments

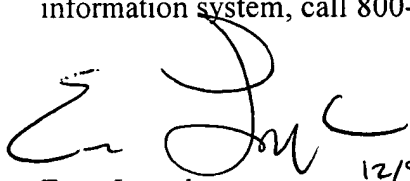
Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. The limitation "wherein a first portion of said shroud guides a wire during a winding of the wire about the pole and a second portion of said shroud directly guides" necessitated the new grounds of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Evan H. Langdon whose telephone number is (571)272-6948. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki can be reached on (571) 272-6951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Evan Langdon
Patent Examiner 12/8/06